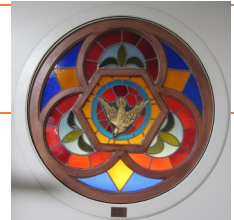


THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Inside this Issue:

- **Love Renegades Update**
- **Pastor's Letter**
- **Pilgrimage to Jerusalem**
- **BUMNS Update**
- **Conference & Denominational Updates**
- **Note from Lay Leader**

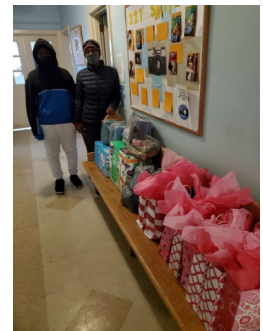
Calendar Highlights

- **March 13** Tools for Ministry
- **April 2** Good Friday
- **April 3** Gloria Saturday
- **April 4** Easter Sunday
- **May 20-22** Annual Conference

THE LOVE RENEGADES UPDATE *by Paula Renneisen*

February is a month for Love and a month for recognizing Black History. In light of the new upcoming Church Structure, I wanted to give people an update on what the Love Renegades (a potential "Team" for those who may have interest) have been up to recently. The Love Renegades met at New Life Church on Saturday, February 13, 2021, to share some love with Mothers' Home, a women's shelter located in Darby, PA. Care bags were created for four working moms and four expecting moms, which included essentials such as hand sanitizer, wipes, diapers, baby clothes, maternity tops, journals, and pens. A Valentine Note of Love was included from New Life UMC and BUMC, sharing the love of God with each of them.

We all know that COVID has changed things with services, but we are still looking to conduct a Pulpit Exchange between Pastor Rodney and Rev. Shayla Johnson of New Life UMC. A tentative date of Sunday, July 11th is our target, stay tuned for more details. The annual Prayer and Praise Rally is also scheduled for Saturday, October 2nd from 10AM to 2 PM.



TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR CHURCH EVENTS & THE GLOBAL CHURCH PLEASE FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK: BUMCservice

INSTAGRAM: bumcares

YOUTUBE: Berwyn UMC

WEBSITE:

www.berwynumc.org

WEBSITE:

www.epaumc.org (Eastern PA Conference of UMC)

WEBSITE: umnews.org (United Methodist News)

Due to COVID-19 we continue to hold worship services only online. Even though we cannot worship together in person we can worship together every Sunday at 10:30am on Facebook Live. If you can't attend via Facebook you can always find our services on YouTube and on our website www.berwynumc.org. Share with your friends and family!

Berwyn United Methodist Church

Worship with us online every Sunday at 10:30 am via

[Facebook.com/BUMCservice](https://www.facebook.com/BUMCservice)

www.berwynumc.org

YouTube: Berwyn UMC

NOTE FROM PASTOR RODNEY

Dear Berwyn Family,

We are again in the Season of Lent. This period of forty days prepares us for the celebration of Holy Week, in which we commemorate the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This year we will continue to worship together virtually, which I know is challenging for many of us. However, I am hoping and praying that, through our worship, we can meaningfully recall the events leading up to Jesus' suffering and death by crucifixion as well as the joy of his resurrection.

Lent and Holy Week is the time of year when we exert special efforts to become more like Christ, to think as he thinks, and to love as he loves. During Lent and Holy Week, we try to share more in the suffering of our Lord, to die to sin and to rise to a new life in Christ.

In this time of pandemic, we are asked to confront ourselves with the cross of Jesus Christ. We still need to carry his cross of love. Suffering love is Jesus' virtue on the cross. He gave everything, even his own life.

We do not simply stand beneath the cross and behold it. We too are called to take up the cross and follow Jesus. This is the time that we must reflect upon the essence of life, our relationship with God, and our baptismal covenant.

During this season of Lent, we are invited to learn and live out the message of the cross. Jesus shares with us his suffering love - a love that endures amid rebuke and hatred, a love that never grows timid and weak in the face of severe opposition, a love that always proclaims justice and righteousness.

Yes, we will be wounded, especially in this pandemic. Many of us are experiencing stress and anxiety. We have lost loved ones during the pandemic, and we feel like giving up. However, we should always remember that we will also rise in glory. Faithfulness to Jesus will bring us a crown of imperishable glory. He is risen and we too will rise with him.

Let us wholeheartedly put our love into everything that we do during this Lenten season. It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit will always guide us as we continue to carry our cross, finding genuine meaning as we self-reflect and repent during Lent and lift our hands in praise to God, during Easter, for the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

May God Bless you Richly,
Pastor Rodney



Pilgrimage to Jerusalem

It is 5,782 miles from Berwyn, PA to Jerusalem, Israel - as a crow flies.

Our trek has begun!

Lace up your sneakers or comfy walking shoes.
Grab your pedometer, iPhone/Android, Fitbit or tracking device and get out there and walk/run!

There are NO age restrictions - everyone is eligible to participate!!!
If walking isn't your 'thing' - laps in the pool, gardening, knitting - anything that gets us outside and moving - can be converted into miles.

Keep track of every mile you walk and send to Stephanie Borely
WEEKLY at Johnborely@comcast.net or text at 610.299.6254.



EASTERN PA CONFERENCE EVENTS

Saturday, March 13, 2021 Tools for Ministry.

Go to this website for registration information and to see a brochure of workshops being offered. Registration cost is \$5.



<https://www.epaumc.org/conference-calendar/tools-for-ministry/>

May 20-22 Annual Conference via ZOOM



UPDATE by Jane Harris

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb and everyone at the nursery school is looking forward to the promise of better weather. February was a challenging month with so many 'snow days'. The children did regale us with many stories of sledding and building snowmen though! The nursery school is very thankful for the efficient clearing of the parking lot and sidewalks after each storm. The new class of 2 year olds we welcomed in January have settled into our school routines very well. During February we focused on 'kindness' and our notice board downstairs is full of kind acts the children have done. This is the time of year we see a lot of growth in our children and the teachers are working hard on evaluating the children to be able to share with their parents at conferences in March. We will be filling the notice board upstairs with many pictures of the exciting times the children have participated in this year so far. Please take a look!

Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Rodney Brailsford

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross

Lay Leader: Amy Dodds

Sexton: Over Caicedo

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Recordings of Sunday Services are available—Contact Jon Stockler, 610-348-3385 or JStockler@aol.com



For the Staff Love Offering—

Thank you all who contributed to the Staff Love Offering! It was very kind of you to think of me during this trying time. It was a nice surprise when I opened the envelope.

Cindy Shallcross



UNITED METHODIST DENOMINATION UPDATES

The **2020 General Conference** has been postponed to 2022. The **2020 Northeast Jurisdiction Conference** has been moved to July 2021.

To learn more visit <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/general-conference-postponed-until-2022>.

Traditionalists committed to leaving The United Methodist Church have chosen "**Global Methodist Church**" as the name for the denomination they plan to launch. To read more visit <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/planned-denomination-gets-name>



NOTE FROM OUR LAY LEADER

LET GOD'S LOVE FLOW THROUGH YOU

After the sermon delivered by Rev Davis-Shappell and our congregation meeting on February 22, I was left thinking of how we, as Christians, can let God's love flow through us. I happened upon the words of Whitney Hopley, which he Adapted from Outflow: Outward-Focused Living in a Self-Focused World, by Steve Sjogren and Dave Ping. Four approaches spoke to me directly, and I hope they speak to you as well. Each is a way to draw closer to God and impact the world around us, even while we are quarantining at home:

***Practice Gratitude:** Thank God for your blessings, and ask for new ones. Perhaps take time to write down some ways God has blessed you – be sure to include some blessings that came in disguise. Think about how those blessings have shown you God's love in action. Thank God for those blessings you have received, and don't hesitate to ask God for new ones.

***Offer your treasure to God.** Recognize that God placed such a high value on you that Jesus was sent to die for your sins so you can be reconciled to God. What is your relationship with God worth to you? Consider what you treasure most in your life – time, money, family, friends, your work, or something else. Then think and pray about how you can offer that treasure by using it to serve God.

***Get to know God's voice.** Tune your spiritual senses up through prayer, Bible reading, and conversation with other Christians who will help you grow in faith. Stop hurrying; slow down your pace of life down, and pay close attention to how God speaks to you each day. Stop worrying; dwelling on your concerns will drown out God's voice. Decide to trust that God is powerful enough and loving enough to care for your problems. Choose to trust that God knows what's best for your life. Know that when you trust in God you will be most fulfilled. Pray for awareness of the things that steal your time, help in giving up control over the things you worry about, and help in trusting God.

***Listen well.** Show other people you care about them by truly listening to their thoughts and feelings. Put aside your own agenda and expectations in conversations. Don't think only of how you will respond, instead give people a chance to control the direction and pace of the conversation so they can fully express themselves. People will know that you genuinely care. Be slow to speak, but quick to listen. Ask God to help you avoid becoming angry, defensive, or controlling when those you love say something with which you disagree. Ask people open-ended, non-threatening questions.

In Christ's Love,

Amy



Our Mission Statement

God **CALLS** us to **Care, Accept, Love, Laugh and Serve**

Worship Schedule

Sundays 10:30 AM

On-Line Worship on Facebook Live/
Church Website/YouTube

Subscribe to our channel on YouTube: Berwyn UMC

Follow on Instagram: bumcares

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

www.berwynumc.org

Email: officebumc@comcast.net

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO 701
SOUTHEASTERN PA

Berwyn United Methodist Church
140 Waterloo Avenue
Berwyn, PA 19312